

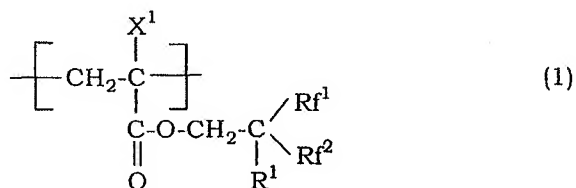
**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

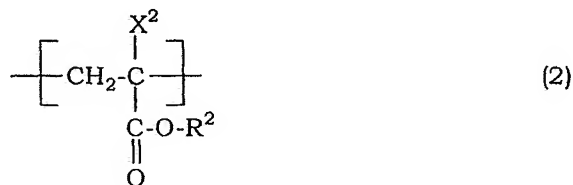
**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1-37. (canceled).

38. (currently amended): A fluorine-containing optical material which comprises a fluorine-containing copolymer comprising from ~~15 to 62 % by mole~~ 23 to 50 % by mole of a structural unit (a) represented by the formula (1):



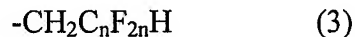
wherein  $\text{X}^1$  is  $\text{CH}_3$  or  $\text{F}$ ;  $\text{Rf}^1$  and  $\text{Rf}^2$  are  $\text{CF}_3$ ;  $\text{R}^1$  is  $\text{CH}_3$ , from ~~12 to 70 % by mole~~ 33 to 70 % by mole of a structural unit (b) derived from methyl methacrylate and from 1 to 40 % by mole of a structural unit (c1) (excluding the structural unit (a)) represented by the formula (2):



wherein  $\text{X}^2$  is  $\text{H}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3$ ,  $\text{F}$ ,  $\text{CF}_3$  or  $\text{Cl}$ ;  $\text{R}^2$  is a fluoroalkyl group having 4 to 6 carbon atoms.

39. (canceled).

40. (previously presented): The fluorine-containing optical material of Claim 38, wherein in the fluorine-containing copolymer,  $R^2$  in the formula (2) representing the structural unit (c1) is represented by the formula (3):



wherein n is an integer of from 3 to 5.

41. (previously presented): the fluorine-containing optical material of Claim 40, wherein in the fluorine-containing copolymer,  $R^2$  in the formula (2) representing the structural unit (c1) is  $-\text{CH}_2\text{C}_4\text{F}_8\text{H}$ .

42. (previously presented): The fluorine-containing optical material of Claim 38, wherein in the fluorine-containing copolymer,  $X^2$  in the formula (2) representing the structural unit (c1) is  $-\text{CH}_3$ .

43. (previously presented): The fluorine-containing optical material of Claim 38, which has a glass transition temperature of not less than 100°C, a refractive index of not more than 1.440 and a fluorine content of not less than 20% by weight.

44. (previously presented): The fluorine-containing optical material of Claim 38, wherein the glass transition temperature is not less than 105°C.

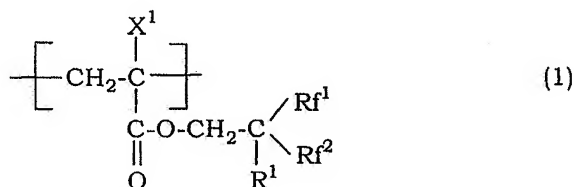
45. (previously presented): The fluorine-containing optical material of Claim 38, wherein the refractive index is not more than 1.430.

46. (currently amended): The fluorine-containing optical material of Claim 38, wherein the fluorine content is ~~note~~ not less than 30% by weight.

47. (previously presented): A material for clad of optical fiber which is obtained from the fluorine-containing optical material of Claim 38.

48. (canceled).

49. (previously presented): A fluorine-containing copolymer which has a weight average molecular weight of from 10,000 to 1,000,000 and comprises from ~~15 to 62 % by mole~~ 23 to 50 % by mole of a structural unit (a) represented by the formula (1):



wherein  $\text{X}^1$  is  $\text{CH}_3$  or  $\text{F}$ ;  $\text{Rf}^1$  and  $\text{Rf}^2$  are  $\text{CF}_3$ ;  $\text{R}^1$  is  $\text{CH}_3$ , from ~~12 to 70 % by mole~~ 33 to 70 % by mole of a structural unit (b) derived from methyl methacrylate and from 1 to 40 % by mole of a structural unit (c2) represented by the formula (2a):



wherein  $\text{X}^3$  is  $\text{H}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3$ ,  $\text{F}$ ,  $\text{CF}_3$  or  $\text{Cl}$ ;  $\text{R}^3$  is a fluoroalkyl group having 4 to 6 carbon atoms; the structural unit represented by the formula (1) is excluded.

50. (canceled).

51. (previously presented): The fluorine-containing copolymer of Claim 49, wherein  $R^3$  in the formula (2a) representing the structural unit (c2) is represented by the formula (3):



wherein n is an integer of from 3 to 5.

52. (previously presented): The fluorine-containing copolymer of Claim 51, wherein  $R^3$  in the formula (2a) representing the structural unit (c2) is  $-\text{CH}_2\text{C}_4\text{F}_8\text{H}$ .

53. (previously presented): The fluorine-containing optical material of Claim 49, wherein in the fluorine-containing copolymer,  $X^2$  in the formula (2a) representing the structural unit (c2) is  $-\text{CH}_3$ .

54. (new): The fluorine-containing optical material of Claim 38, wherein  $R^2$  of the structural unit (c1) is a fluoroalkyl group having 4 carbon atoms.

55. (new): The fluorine-containing optical material of Claim 49, wherein  $R^3$  of the structural unit (c2) is a fluoroalkyl group having 4 carbon atoms.